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International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

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Agenda item 9
Adoption of the final outcomes of the International Meeting

Draft report of the Main Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Perina J. **Sila** (Samoa)

Draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

1. At its __ meeting, on __ January, the Main Committee approved the following changes to the text of the draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and recommended them to the International Meeting for adoption.

2. Paragraph 66 was revised to read:

> 66. The decision taken on 31 July 2004 by WTO members, which emphasizes their resolve to conclude the negotiations launched at Doha, and the renewed commitment by WTO members to fulfilling the development dimension of the current round of WTO negotiations, which seeks to place the needs and interests of developing countries at the heart of the Doha work programme, is a welcome development. We recognize the importance of intensifying efforts to facilitate the full and effective participation by small economies, notably small island developing States, in the deliberations and decision-making process of WTO. Many small island developing States either are not represented in Geneva or are still grappling with the process of accession to WTO membership. Most small island developing States also experience serious capacity constraints in meeting WTO obligations.

3. A new paragraph 91 bis was inserted:

> 91 bis. Attention should be focused on the specific trade- and development-related needs and concerns of small island developing States to enable them to fully integrate into the multilateral trading system.

4. A new subparagraph 92 (a) bis was inserted, reading:

> 92. (a) bis Work to ensure, as envisaged in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, that in the ongoing negotiations on and elaboration of the

WTO Work Programme on Small Economies due account is taken of small island developing States, which have severe structural handicaps in integrating into the global economy, within the context of the Doha work programme;

5. Subparagraph 92 (b) was revised to read:

92. (b) Facilitation of the accession of small island developing States, where appropriate, through enhanced technical assistance;

6. Subparagraph 92 (e) was revised to read:

92. (e) Use of appropriate long-term mechanisms to facilitate the adjustment of small island developing States to post-Doha trade liberalization and timely implementation of the trade integration mechanism for small island developing States that are members of IMF to address balance-of-payments shortfalls arising from multilateral trade liberalization;

7. Subparagraph 92 (f) was deleted.

8. Subparagraph 92 (h) was revised to read:

92. (h) Implementation of programmes to facilitate remittances, encourage foreign investment and support the development of small island developing States;

9. A new subparagraph 92 (j) was inserted, reading:

92. (j) Facilitate the development of human resources and institutional capacity within small island developing States for the implementation of the obligations of multilateral environmental agreements.

10. Paragraph 93 was revised to read:

93. Furthermore, the United Nations Secretary-General is requested to consider enhancing, where appropriate, the work programmes of relevant United Nations agencies, including UNCTAD, on the special problems of small island developing States to provide concrete recommendations to assist small island developing States in having access to and deriving greater economic opportunities and benefits from the global economy. WTO and other relevant international organizations are encouraged to use the modalities of the integrated framework of trade-related technical assistance for least developed countries to coordinate assistance programmes, including capacity-building for more effective participation in trade negotiations, and build on national poverty reduction strategies in order to mainstream trade into the development plans of small island developing States.